

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MELBOU 01096 200434Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-05 /018 W
-----107914 200441Z /13

P R 200315Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4519
INFO USDAO CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
DOS RECEPTION SAN FRANCISCO

UNCLAS MELBOURNE 1096

FOR EA/ANZ

DEPT PASS TO DEFENSE

E O 11652 A
TAGS BTRA, MMOL, AS
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR UNCLASSIFIED VISIT TO
THREE U.S. DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENTS BY VISITING
AUSTRALIAN OPERATIONS RESEARCH ENGINEER

SUMMARY: POST REQUESTS DEPT COORDINATE AS NECESSARY WITH
AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO FACILITATE OBTAINING PERMISSION
FOR AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN KEITH W LAING, AN OPERATIONS RESEARCH
SPECIALIST EMPLOYED BY STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION OF VICTORIA,
TO VISIT THREE U.S. DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENTS IN AUG 1978, FOR
UNCLASSIFIED DISCUSSIONS. DETAILS FOLLOW:

1. STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION OF VICTORIA (SECV), STATE
GOVT-OWNED CORPORATION WHICH OWNS AND OPERATES VICTORIA'S
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATING PLANTS & TRANSMISSION LINES,
HAS OFFICIALLY REQUESTED POST TO ARRANGE ENTRY OF MR
KEITH W LAING INTO THREE U.S. DEFENSE DEPT
ESTABLISHMENTS. MR LAING IS TRAVELING TO USA ON JULY 21
UNDER SECV'S "EXPERIENCE AND STUDY AWARD SCHEME" WHEREBY
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HE WILL SPEND FOUR MONTHS IN USA, UK AND EUROPE "TO STUDY
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND PRACTICES IN RELIABILITY ENGINEERING."
SCHEME PAYS FULL SALARY, TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION. LAING PLANS
TO VISIT ORGANIZATIONS BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE POWER
INDUSTRY. HE IS 42-YEAR OLD SPECIALIST IN OPERATIONS
RESEARCH, SPECIALIZING IN RELIABILITY TECHNOLOGY OR POWER
COMPLEXES AND INFORMATION SYSTEM DESIGN. AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE

DEPT AND DEPT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARE AWARE OF LAING'S MISSION BUT FORMER, ACCORDING TO MELBOURNE DFA SPOKESMAN, HAS DECLINED TO BECOME INVOLVED IN OBTAINING ENTRY AUTHORIZATIONS ON GROUNDS THAT NO RPT NO CLASSIFIED MATTER IS INVOLVED AND SECV IS NOT RPT NOT (STRICTLY SPEAKING) A PART OF VICTORIA STATE GOVT BUT "MORE LIKE A COMMERICAL ENTERPRISE."

2. WHILE IN USA, LAING WISHES TO VISIT:

A) NAVAL ORDNANCE LABORATORY, CORONA, CALIF:
"TO DISCUSS THEIR 'FAILURE RATE DATA' PROGRAM, ITS DESIGN IMPLEMENTATION, DATA BASE AND THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH PARTICIPANTS WITH A VIEW TO EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY, AND VALUE TO THIS COMMISSION, OF BECOMING A PARTICIPANT IN THE SCHEME."

B) THE NAVAL MATERIAL COMMAND, WASHDC:
"TO DISCUSS DATA SYSTEMS, IDENTIFICATION CODES, THE DESIGN OF PLANT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, THE GOVERNMENT INDUSTRY DATA EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND THE LIAISON BETWEEN GIDEP (USA) AND EXACT (SWEDEN). DISCUSSIONS ON PLANT SPECIFICATIONS FOR TENDER (FROM A RELIABILITY VIEWPOINT) AND THE METHOD OF ANALYSIS AND SELECTION OF TENDERERS."

C) THE AIR FORCE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH,
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WASHD:
"TO DISCUSS TECHNIQUES AND RELIABILITY CONCEPTS WHICH ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS REDUCING THE HIGH COST OF OPERATIONAL HARDWARE AND TO INVESTIGATE MAINTENANCE PLANNING METHODS. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE NON-PARAMETRIC APPROACH DESCRIBED IN THE PUBLICATION "THEORY AND APPLICATION OF RELIABILITY" EDITED BY TSOKOS AND SHIMA(AFOSR)."

3. LAIN WILL BE IN LOS ANGELES JULY 21-AUG 5 AT FOLLOWING ADDRESS: MARRIOTT NEWPORT BEACH HOTEL, 900 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE NEW PORT BEACH, CA 92660 TEL (714) 640-4000.

CAN ALSO BE REACHED AT 1978 COMPUTER SIMULATION CONFERENCE IN LA JULY 24-26. HE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR NOL VISIT JULY 31-AUG 4. WILL BE IN SAN FRANCISCO AUG 5-10; CAN BE CONTACTED THERE THROUGH ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE, PALO ALTO. WILL BE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AUG 11-18, AVAILABLE FOR NMC AND AFOSR VISITS AUG 14-17. CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY. REQUEST HE BE CONTACTED IN

USA AND ADVISED WHETHER OR NOT VISITS CAN BE ARRANGED.

4. POST REGRETS SHORT NOTICE TO DEPT BUT THROUGH
NO FAULT OF LAING OR SECV ITS REQUEST HAS GONE FULL CIRCLE
FROM SECV TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY TO ADOD TO DFA TO SECV TO USICA
MELBOURNE TO CONGEN TO USDAO CANBERRA TO CONGEN TO SECV*
REQUEST DEPT CONTACT AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY AND HELP
EXPEDITE AUTHORIZATIONS. THIS REQUEST BASED ON POST'S
ASSUMPTION THAT NO RPT NO ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IS
INVOLVED; WE HAVE NO RPT NO INFORMATION ON WHAT SECURITY
CLEARANCE IF ANY, MR LAING HOLDS. POST UNDERSTANDS DFA
MELBOURNE IS SENDING SIMILAR MESSAGE TO
AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY.

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Message Attributes

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